



### Common Pain Killers Miscellaneous Factoids and Information

# Chemistry Inspired by Pain February 16, 2007 Keith Korthals







Aspirin<sup>™</sup>\* - acetyl ester of naturally occurring salicylic acid



Tylenol<sup>™</sup> - acetaminophen



\*Trade make in Canada but this was lost in the US after WWI.





Aleve



#### Ibuprofen

#### DOCTORS AND PHARMACISTS RECOMMEND ALEVE FOR SAFE, LONG-LASTING PAIN RELIEF





Vioxx™







#### Vicodin™



OxyCotin<sup>™</sup> Percodan<sup>™</sup> - with aspirin Pecoset<sup>™</sup> - with acetaminophen











•5th Century BC willow bark extract Isolated in 1828 byHenri Leroux •First Synthesis in 1853 by LaFont •Kolbe first did this in 1860 at 1 atm, < 50 % Schmit ran it under pressure in quantitative yield.

Linsey, A.; Jeskey, H. Chem. Rev. 1957, 57, 583 - 620.







Figure 1. Crystal packing of aspirin forms I, II, and S. L. Price predicted form II. (a) Form I: 1D chains sustained by alternating carboxylic acid and acetyl group centrosymmetric dimers. (b) Form II: acid dimers are connected via catemeric methyl C-H···O and phenyl C-H···O (not shown) hydrogen bonds. (c) Acetyl group C-H···O dimers in form I and catemers in form II. (d) S. L. Price predicted form II. Note the similarity with the crystal packing of form II (b).

Vishweshwar, P.; McMahon, J.; Oliveira, M.; Peterson, M.; Zaworotko, M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2005, 127, 16802.



#### Aspirin : New Crystal Structure





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- •First made in 1874 by Harmon Morse
- •Up for sale in 1955
- •Cox-3 inhibitor which only is found in the brain and spin
- •Converted to N-arachidonoylphenolamine which is a known CB1 activator
- Prostaglandin synthesis inhibitor

Over doses lead to liver toxicity



Flower, R. J.; Vane, J.R. Nature 1972, 240 (5381), 377.



## COX - Cyclooxygenase



arachidonic acid



Prostaglandins - responsible for the perception of pain





- Prostaglandins work with cells to promote inflammation and other function.
- COX-1 is continuously secreted in the stomach and is required for gastrointestinal heath. They promote the excretion of mucus in the stomach.
- COX-2 is associated with swelling injuries







Inhibits COX-1 and COX-2 (mostly)
Heart failure issues
Available by prescription in 1974 in the US
Over the counter in 1984
(S)-(+)-ibuprofen is the active form. The inactive can be converted in the body to the active form.















- Naproxen introduced in 1976
  Over the counter in 1994
- •Some data indicates an increase in heart attack risk and some states it decreases the risk.
- •COX1 and COX2 inhibitor



# Vicodin





- •Hydrocodone
- Opium derived
- •Opium goes back at least 3400 BC





# OxyCotin™



- Oxycodon
- Drug of choice for Russ Limbaugh
- Introduced in 1995
- 50 % more potent than Vicodin™
- Highly addictive
- From thebaine minor component of opium

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# Fentenyl™





- Introduced in 1960's
- •Sold as a "lollipop"
- Sold as a patch and more effective if absorbed through skin or tongue
  80 times more potent than
- morphine
- •Commonly mixed with cocaine or heroin for an extra "kick" or to dilute down cocaine or heroin



# Ultam (Tramadol)





- 10 % as potent as morphine and it hits those receptors
- Mixture of enantiomers





## Could Not Find in Literature - But Found on Website to Make in your Garage

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- Aspirin does not work well on my headaches, but if you have injuries that involves swelling, it works well
- Acetaminophen works ok on headaches insufficient data on injury but little anti-inflammatory effects
- Ibuprofen works best on tooth pain and headaches, and it works ok on injuries involving swelling.
- Vicodin<sup>™</sup> you still hurt badly but you just don't care!